



Canal &
River Trust



PRESS RELEASE

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THE BIG DRAW COMES TO STOKE BRUERNE

The world's largest drawing festival 'The Big Draw' is coming to the Canal Museum at Stoke Bruerne in Northamptonshire on Wednesday 26 October.

The free event, organised by the Canal & River Trust, the charity that cares for 2,000 miles of canals and rivers in England & Wales, along with the Stoke Bruerne Canal Partnership, is an opportunity for all budding artists, random scribblers and wannabe Picassos to come and take part in a free drawing workshop alongside the tranquil Grand Union Canal.

The theme for this year's Big Draw workshop is STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and maths) and, with lots of examples of industrial heritage and engineering everywhere you look along the waterways, the canals should provide plenty of inspiration for artists.

Stephanie Furniss, duty manager at the Canal Museum, said: "Canals and rivers have always been a big attraction for artists, from Constable and Canaletto to the countless professional and amateur artists who are still drawn down to the waterside today. Our Big Draw is a chance for people to step out of their everyday lives, to unwind and let their creative juices flow in an inspirational setting."

Helen Westlake, from the Stoke Bruerne Canal Partnership said: "We're looking forward to being part once again of the national celebration known as 'Big Draw'. This will be the third year we have held a whole day event enabling anyone and everyone to drop in and enjoy the pleasure of being creative, at whatever level they wish. Excuses such as 'I can't draw!' and thinking this is only for children are not accepted!

"We provide lots of help and ideas and all the materials you could need. The setting outdoors at Stoke Bruerne is always colourful and interesting. Everyone who takes part enjoys it, often to their surprise. There are even a few prizes!"

The workshop will be run by a local artist from 11am – 4pm and is open to all ages and abilities. All materials will be provided. Just turn up and bring your imagination. Car parking charges apply.

For more information on the work of the Canal & River Trust, visit www.canalrivertrust.org.uk

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Notes to editors:

The Canal & River Trust is the guardian of 2,000 miles of historic waterways across England and Wales, caring for the nation's third largest collection of listed structures, as well as museums, archives, and hundreds of important wildlife sites.

We believe that *living waterways transform places and enrich lives* and our role is to make sure there is always a place on your doorstep where you can escape the pressures of everyday life, stretch your legs and simply feel closer to nature.

www.canalrivertrust.org.uk @CanalRiverTrust @crtcomms

The Stoke Bruerne Canal Partnership is a partnership of local stakeholders, including the Canal & River Trust, The Canal Museum, Stoke Bruerne Parish Council, the Inland Waterways Association, South Northants Council, the Wildlife Trust, local residents and businesses, working towards achieving the enhancement of the Canal Corridor in Stoke Bruerne.

www.stokebruernecanalpartnership.org.uk